

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes No. 294–314, I am not recorded because I was absent from the U.S. House of Representatives. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: On rollcall No. 294, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 295, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 296, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 297, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 298, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 299, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 300, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 301, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 302, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 303, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 304, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 305, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 306, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 307, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 308, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 309, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 310, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 311, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 312, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 313, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 314, had I been present, I would have voted “no”.

HONORING U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST  
ARRONN D. FIELDS**HON. LARRY BUCSHON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army Specialist Arronn D. Fields.

SPC Fields, a 27-year-old native of Terre Haute, Indiana, lost his life in combat on May 21st in Parwan Province, Afghanistan, during an insurgent attack when his military vehicle received rocket-propelled grenade fire.

SPC Fields was assigned to the 381st Military Police Company, 81st Troop Command, Army National Guard located in Plymouth, Indiana. SPC Fields deployed to Afghanistan as a member of Task Force Guardian, a multi-unit military police force from Indiana.

Indiana lost a great citizen, who enlisted in the Indiana National Guard in 2006.

I would like to offer my most heartfelt condolences to SPC Fields' family and friends. His commitment to his fellow soldiers and the Indiana National Guard make SPC Fields a patriot. We are a grateful Nation and SPC Fields will be missed, but not forgotten.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT  
COMMANDER WESLEY A. BROWN**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Lieutenant Commander Wesley A. Brown '49, CEC, USN (Ret.), the first African American graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, who died on May 22, 2012, for his service to his country and to the residents of the District of Columbia. Tomorrow, Wednesday, June 6, 2012, the U.S. Naval Academy will hold Commander Brown's memorial service in the Academy's Main Chapel, a short walk from the stadium, the Wesley A. Brown Field House, named for him in recognition of his historic place in history.

The District of Columbia had no representation in Congress at the time, but Representative Adam Clayton Powell (NY) nominated Mr. Brown to the Naval Academy in 1945. According to historian Robert J. Scheller, Jr., who was commissioned by the Navy to write a book about Lieutenant Brown, *Breaking the Color Barrier: The U.S. Naval Academy's First Black Midshipmen and the Struggle for Racial Equality*, “Having attended high school, played sports, led the Cadet Corps, held a full-time job, and taken a college course all at the same time, Brown was accustomed to working hard, working smart, and budgeting his time.”

Commander Brown never stopped serving his country. He chaired the District of Columbia Service Academy Selection Board and was Chairman Emeritus until his death. A life-long resident of the District of Columbia, Lieutenant Commander Brown, the first in his family to be college-educated, grew up in Washington's Logan Circle neighborhood, and attended Dunbar High School, where he led the Dunbar Cadet Corps battalion. Upon his graduation, Mr. Brown attended Howard University through the Army's Specialized Training Reserve Program, because he was not old enough to apply to West Point.

Lieutenant Commander Brown is remembered as a hero at the United States Naval Academy and in his home town. With his beaming smile, Wes, who was always good for conversation and armed with an extraordinary memory and a sharp intellect, offered anecdotes instructed with living history. Lieutenant Commander Wes Brown, who withstood battle and gave generously of himself, had the heart of a warship.

I ask the House to join me in offering our sincere condolences and sympathy to Wes Brown's widow, Crystal, his children, Willeta, Carol, Wesley, Jr. and Gary, and his seven grandchildren, and in thanksgiving for a lifetime of service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL  
KEVIN A. LEONARD'S 33  
YEARS OF UNIFORMED SERVICE  
TO OUR NATION**HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Major General Kevin A.

Leonard for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States of America. Major General Leonard will retire from the United States Army in May 2012 after serving his country with integrity, dedication and visionary leadership for over 33 years. While his accomplishments are numerous, these deserve special notice. Major General Kevin A. Leonard has distinguished himself through exceptionally meritorious service to the United States Army from May 1979 to May 2012, concluding 33 years of exemplary service culminating in his assignment as Commanding General, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. Major General Leonard is a genuine selfless servant leader who consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership, professionalism, dedication, and a genuine heart-felt concern for the welfare of Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families. His efforts, sacrifices, and selfless service have made significant and enduring contributions to the development, training, and leadership of the United States Army and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Major General Leonard has performed with expert distinction in all of his assignments throughout a remarkable career. He has led and molded Soldiers while serving in a myriad of significant positions of ever-increasing responsibility to include the following: Infantry Rifle and Scout Platoon Leader in Germany during the Cold War; Company Commander at both Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Fort Riley, Kansas; every key development position at battalion level to include Battalion Commander in the 1st Infantry Division; Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC), Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Commander Special Operations Support Command (Airborne), in both Afghanistan and Iraq; Chief Sustainment Division and Executive Assistant (EA) to the Director, Joint Staff, The Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.; Deputy Commander, United States Army Field Support Command with duty as Commanding General, Army Materiel Command Forward-Southwest Asia/C-4, Coalition Land Forces, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; Commanding General 1st Corps Support Command (Airborne)/1st Sustainment Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina and Camp Arifjan Kuwait; Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics and Operations, United States Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; and finally, Commanding General Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command.

Major General Leonard's phenomenal success leading SDDC and several other organizations is attributable to the core traits and values he has demonstrated throughout his service in the United States Army. He is a committed and resolute leader who has consistently built incredibly agile, innovative, and mission oriented teams. His formula for success is simple: he knows, trusts, and empowers his subordinates to execute his intent; he has always founded his leadership on the credo “Mission First, Soldiers Always, and Self Last”; and he has led by example with his professional competence and unflinching confidence in his team. He believed each of his organizations could achieve the highest standards possible and without fail, they did. Through his energy, optimism, and emphasis on collaboration, he has created teams of nimble and innovative problem solvers that have fundamentally improved organizational efficacy